

it is ten cents or a hundred dollars, but when you are about to decide how much you will give, start at the top of the scale, and as you descend, ask the Lord, "how much shall I give to build this church," and he will give you the answer, and then—*give it*. Remember too, that procrastination in this matter only delays the work, and the loss cannot be estimated *here*, but only at the *end*, when we shall receive our just rewards for our stewardship while here. Yes, we are only *stewards* here, let us give unto the Lord cheerfully that which is his *own*. Oh! if we could realize our full responsibility. May we all fully consecrate ourselves in his service, and then we will at all times do our duty.

R. I. GARBER.

319 C St., S. E.

Notes From Zed H. Copp

Great is the Lord,
And greatly to be praised.

Since our last communication three have been added to this congregation. One by baptism, one by relation from the Conservatives, and one by letter from an adjoining congregation. The baptized is a young man of splendid qualities in every respect and the head of a family. The sister added by relation is also of a splendid class of people and the wife of a husband whom we expect to soon receive into the church. The sister by letter is the wife of the brother baptized.

Sunday night just before preaching, a few of us met at sister Charlotte Bond's and celebrated the Lord's supper. It was a most solemn occasion, as Sister Bond is on a sick bed which may prove to be to her what the chariot of fire was to Elija as far as effect is concerned. We pray for her full restoration to health, for she has been a true mother in Israel to the Dayton church. Zealous, hopeful and faithful; meek, gentle, patient and persevering are some of her characteristics. May her type increase.

Sister J. C. Kimmel has a very sick son which has prevented her from active work in Sunday-school where she is a successful teacher. We hope he will soon be well again.

The church is in a live, healthy condition so far as we can judge. God only knows the secret of men's hearts.

The following young people deserve special mention for faithful helpfulness at the lawn social: Edward Smith, Maud Protsman, Lottie Chapman, Pearl Barrett, Lillie Barrett, Amber Selby, Nellie Selby, Mary Miltonberger and Anna Steele.

The determination to go ahead and do what we can toward securing a permanent church home has been entered into. We are receiving inquiries about donations toward this fund, and hope ere long to have a "building of God"—a house of faith—in which to praise him. The dear Lord make us willing to be filled with his Spirit, so that we may come together at conference for the better and not for the worse.

Church News

Michigan Conference

The eleventh annual conference of the Brethren church of the State of Michigan will be held in the Bethel church, Cass County, Mich., seven miles northeast of Cassopolis, to commence at 10 o'clock, Sept. 27, 1899.

Devotional exercises, J. G. Winey.

Opening address, Walter Clark.

Response, George Clum.

Appointment of committees by moderator.

Report of committees.

Music.

The Christian worker and his reward, John Shank.

SECOND SESSION, 1:30 P. M.

Devotional service.

Christ's mission on earth, J. H. English.

Man's mission on earth, Eld. J. G. Winey, Wm. D. Furry, A. R. Bemenderfer.

Bible school, Wm. D. Furry.

Preaching, A. R. Bemenderfer.

THIRD SESSION, 9 A. M.

Devotional, C. A. Price.

Bible school, Wm. D. Furry.

The spiritual condition of the church and how to promote it, A. R. Bemenderfer, Albert Clark.

How do we know when we love the children of God, George Clum.

Report of Mission Board.

Report of evangelist.

Treasurer's report.

Election of officers, etc.

S. S. work.

The best method of teaching the older scholars, W. O. Bowers.

Would it be advisable to hold Sunday-school where there are no children, William Sherburn.

Bible school, Wm. D. Furry.

Preaching, Wm. D. Furry.

Devotional exercises.

The keeping of the Sabbath, Jacob Rench.

The benefit of the S. S. C. E., William H. Miller.

Sisters' Society of C. E. devotional, Mrs. Mina Rice.

Report given by president.

Report of secretary.

The needs of our society, Mrs. Hattie Bowers.

The best method of keeping up our society, Mrs. Emmie Seigell, Mrs. O. E. Chapman.

The Conference will be prefaced by Ministerial Institute on the 26 inst. to begin at 10 A. M.

Advice to the Illiokota Conference

It is true that advice at times is very cheap and worthless and many times given when not called for or even needed, but at other times it is very precious, tho it may be thought worthless until time is wasted and opportunities have past and bad work has been done. Then we awake to our sorrow what we have wasted. I have concluded that the Illiokota Conference needs a little advice and I intend to give it.

Since we have been organized we have insisted on the churches to send delegates which they have largely done. When we meet in conference we give all present an equal right to deliberate and vote. Now this was all right while we were in our infancy and could hardly get a quorum of delegates, but is it not time for us to get out of our babyhood and have a delegated meeting not only put on the color of business but be business. If we mean to be a delegated body let us be one, if not, let us notify the churches to all come that can and not go to the bother of electing delegates as all have an equal right anyhow, and the church that invites the conference in its home holds the balance of power and influence anyhow.

Another thing I think it is time for us to quit, as we have been putting on a roster of a color of delegation when a church does not send a delegate and some one comes to the conference of their own accord the conference takes him up and elects him delegate. Now what right have we to do this if we mean to hold to congregational or republican form of government.

A little thing took place last year that impressed me, with not only how mistaken this course is, but also how important it is that the church ought to be very careful and to be fair in electing the delegates. The matter I refer to took place in a church that has been very loose in appointing their delegates. Sometimes do nothing, sometimes a few members have a fence corner conference and tell one to go and be delegate while many of the members knew nothing of it. This went on for some time with but little said, but some did a good deal of thinking, and you know thoughts develop words, until last year there was so much said about it that the church was publicly notified to be sure to appoint a special meeting and elect their delegate, but it was not done, and time passed. The program came out for the conference and a certain man's name was on the program from that church. Quite a number at once surmised the reason no meeting was called, was because the church in fair open counsel would not elect the man that a few wanted, and knowing how the conference had been doing in the past, they expected the conference would elect him for them after he got there, and the result was the day before I started to the conference I received a petition from said church signed by quite a number protesting against the man being used as delegate. I was instructed to present the petition if any attempt was made to use him as delegate, but the man did not appear and I did not present the petition.

Now my advice is summed up in these words:

1st. The churches be careful to elect their delegates fair and impartial.

2nd. The conference use no one as delegates unless they have been elected by the church at home in counsel assembled.

3rd. Allow all the right to deliberate but delegates only the right to vote.

May the Lord bless the mission of this article.

JOHN A. MYERS.